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National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering

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NIBIB ANNOUNCES AWARD OF FIRST RESEARCH GRANTS

The National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB), the newest of the NIH funding institutes, will award its first research grants this week to the following institutions: Yale University School of Medicine, University of California at San Francisco and Tribofilm Research, Inc. of Raleigh, NC. The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke will join the NIBIB in supporting the Yale University research.

The Yale University project, which will receive $1.4 million in total costs this year, will be headed by Dr. James S. Duncan, who is developing magnetic resonance functional and spectroscopic imaging techniques to study and treat neocortical epilepsy. This grant is part of the NIH Bioengineering Research Partnership program which encourages multi-disciplinary teams of biomedical and quantitative scientists to work on biomedical research problems. This is the first competing research project grant application to be awarded by the NIBIB.

The University of California at San Francisco Cardiovascular Research Institute will receive $330,000 in total costs this year as the first competing renewal research grant awarded by the NIBIB. The project, headed by Dr. Alan S. Verkman, will be developing new optical methods for imaging cellular architecture and dynamics.

The first small business innovation research award was issued to Tribofilm Research, Inc. of Raleigh, NC in the amount of $420,000 in total costs for this year. This project will be headed by Dr. Paul M. Vernon to develop new silicone-free, low-friction coatings for syringes. This project is timely due to the increasing interest in developing alternatives to silicone-based lubricants which are typically used in medical devices.

The NIBIB was established in December of 2000 and received official grant-making authority with the passage of the FY2002 Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (P.L. 107-116) on January 10, 2002. The NIBIB supports research which will improve health by promoting fundamental discoveries, design and development, and translation and assessment of

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technological capabilities in biomedical imaging and bioengineering, enabled by relevant areas of information science, physics, chemistry, mathematics, materials science, and computer sciences.

For more information about the NIBIB and related funding opportunities, visit http://www.nibib.nih.gov.

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